

SEASON WILL OPEN WITH NIGHT OF FUN.

PRESS CLUB WILL GIVE SOME SIDELIGHTS ON SALT LAKE LIFE AT THE THEATRE NEXT THURSDAY EVENING.

PARTIES TO THE CONSPIRACY.

The cast of characters in "The Old Bedstead," in the order of their appearance, follows:

Hezekiah Scroggins, station agent at Jordan's Crossing.....John S. Critchlow
 Bid Dubbs, the reciting kid, chore boy and leading man of the Home Dramatic club.....Waldemar Young
 Maud Stubbs, wife of Josiah.....Ed C. Penrose
 Luke McLuke, constable of Jordan precinct.....George E. Carpenter
 Ben Davis, leader of the Singing society.....Race Whitney
 Frank McHatchney, a lightning rod agent.....Carl R. Williams
 Evelyn Patterson, an adventuress in red.....Mills Williams
 Nancy Clancy, from across the way.....Walter W. Little
 Gwendoline Stubbs, the pride of the village.....Lorenzo J. Haddock
 Josiah Stubbs, father of Gwendoline.....David C. Dunbar
 Sue Brette, a village novelty.....Parley P. Jensen
 Lord Pearlsford Sope, a promoter from the British isles.....Alan L. Lovey
 Squire Tinquart Kettleson, the village capitalist.....Will Sibley
 Arthur Trevelan, the brawny blacksmith of Jordan's Crossing.....Alex S. Campbell
 Sim Rivers, a silver-voiced tenor.....Martin E. Mulvey
 Officer McGinnity, of the Fountain Green force.....Burl Armstrong
 Sid Stebbins, a local celebrity.....Carl S. Schmidt
 Ebenezer Durrant, justice of the peace.....C. W. Gates
 Gus Waters, a miller.....Kenneth C. Kerr
 Hank Henry, a packer at the old mill.....
 Samantha Sartin, a lady.....
 Villagers, Mill Hands, Etc.

"The Old Bedstead," a burlesque on the rural type of dramas, will be presented by the Press club of Salt Lake at the Salt Lake theatre Thursday evening, Sept. 6.

Salt Lakers who witness the production of "The Old Bedstead" will find it the best local play ever presented in the Salt Lake theatre. "The Old Bedstead" has a plot and deals with prominent local men. Pearlsford Sope, the villain, a lord and promoter, will be readily recognized by local financiers and others. Each character is typical of men prominent in the public eye locally. The plot itself was built around recent and well known happenings in Salt Lake.

The story of "The Old Bedstead" in narrative form follows:

Once upon a time in the little village of Jordan Crossing lived Josiah Stubbs, a prosperous miller, who had a beautiful daughter, Gwendoline. Next to his daughter Josiah treasured an old bedstead. This was a family heirloom. Among the many suitors for his daughter's hand was a brawny blacksmith, Arthur Trevelan. They were happy in their early courtship, but clouds descending upon Josiah threatened to mar the future lives of the young people.

The first shadow was the appearance in the village of Pearlsford Sope, a lord and promoter. He had discovered the secret of making denatured alcohol from the pulp of sugar beets. On a former visit to the village he had secured a large part of Josiah's prosperity. Sope's plot now was to obtain possession of the Stubbs farm to grow these beets, and for the further purpose of securing financial backing in the village. Josiah, however, remembering his former experience was suspicious of the promoter. Having been scorned, Sope now approaches Squire Kettleson, the wealthiest and "crustiest" native, whose hatred for Josiah was a matter of common knowledge. Kettleson enters into a plot with Sope to break Josiah's heart by obtaining possession of the old bedstead, the most treasured heirloom in the Stubbs family. This Kettleson can do, for he holds a mortgage on the bedstead secured in an election bet years before. Kettleson agrees to foreclose the mortgage and advance Sope money with which to purchase the bedstead at the auction. Kettleson had not foreclosed, before this because Josiah was so popular in the village that nobody would bid on the bedstead, had it been offered at auction. The plot thickens.

Trevelan, by running on the ticket which lost Stubbs his heirloom, loses the old man's favor. Both he and the girl are driven from the Stubbs home in a blinding snowstorm. Gwendoline goes to the city and is forced to earn her living selling violets in the streets of Fountain Green.

Bid Dubbs, Josiah's chore boy, and Sue Brette go to the city on a trip. While there they try to find Gwendoline, but meet Sope instead. Sope informs Bid that he is out of money, and money he must have. Sope asks Bid to hold up a train, promising to reward him, not with congratulations alone, but by finding Gwendoline for him. Bid in his eagerness to find Gwendoline half promises to hold up the train and agrees to meet Sope later.

In another and more blinding snowstorm, Gwendoline meets Sope and denounces him, but the villain sneers and is unmoved by the beautiful girl's impassioned words. Another dash of thickening!

Bid Dubbs keeps his engagement with Sope and the train robbery is planned. It comes off on time.

Sope is still pursuing Stubbs, and by a stroke of master finance secures the money to purchase the old bedstead.

Foiled! All ends happily!

HOW "THE OLD BEDSTEAD" CAME TO BE WRITTEN

"The Old Bedstead," which the Salt Lake Press club will present at the Salt Lake theatre Sept. 6, was written by Waldemar Young and Race Whitney, Salt Lake newspaper men. How the story came to be written is in itself an interesting story.

"The Old Bedstead" is the first show undertaken by the Press club since the presentation of "The Ham Show." A previous production was "The Tom Show."

"The Old Bedstead" is the first entirely original play ever attempted by the club. The authors of the Ham and Tom shows had books to follow. "The Tom Show" was a burlesque upon the overworked "Uncle Tom's Cabin" and "The Ham Show" a dip at burlesque in Shakespearean drama, taken from "Hamlet." "The Old Bedstead" is one of the few plays written around a title. No book has been followed. The play is a burlesque on the rural drama after the type of "The Old Homestead," "Way Down East," "Sag Harbor," "Shore Acres," "Our New Minister," a dash of melodrama burlesque such plays as "Lights of London," "After Dark" and the "Silver King."

When Waldemar Young and Race Whitney, the authors, returned from San Francisco, where they had been working, they learned that the Press club, of which they are members, wished to present a show—something more original, pretentious and better—than anything yet attempted—and "that's going some." They were asked

"HOLD, YOU SCOUNDREL!"



Walter W. Little as Gwendolyn Stubbs, Alan L. Lovey as Arthur Trevelan and David C. Dunbar as Lord Pearlsford Sope, in "The Old Bedstead."

to write something to fill these requirements and consented to do so.

"What kind of a play do you want?" they asked. "A minstrel show or burlesque on some drama?" "Uncle Tom's Cabin" had been burlesqued and "The Ham Show" had put an end to stunts having Shakespeare's works as a foundation. For more than a year a burlesque of the rural drama had been suggested.

"Make it along the line of 'The Old Homestead,'" was the final instruction.

A few days later some one who had overheard this remark walked into the billiard room at the Press club and after asking if "those fellows" had started on "The Old Bedstead" yet, mixed with the spectators of the game. The question got a laugh. Whitney paused in a run of eighteen balls.

Young reversed the tempo indicator on the pianola, stopped playing "Because the Fellows Didn't Want Him to Do It," and shouted: "There's a title. Come. Race. To work!" Whitney put up his cue and the first step toward writing "The Old Bedstead" had been taken.

Work of Writing Begun.

The board of managers of the Press club consulted with the authors as to be in regard to securing materials. "We have a typewriter saved from the earthquake and fire in San Francisco," announced one of the writers. A messenger was sent to the Whitney Young offices in the Hooper building after the machine. While the literary pair were waiting for the machine an electric light was installed on the back porch of the Press club's quarters, paper collected and everything put in readiness for the commencement of work.

By midnight a scenario, which to playwrights is what a sailing chart is to seafarers, was finished. The characters and action of the play were mapped out and the first act was finished five days later. This installment was read to the board of managers. Despite the fact that this august body critics was ready to discover and pounce upon the slightest flaw or weak spot, the reading went off like a bunch of firecrackers. Every line was the signal for an outburst of merriment.

"If they are this show will be the best one ever presented by the Salt Lake Press club or any other amateur company," said one member.

Working Night and Day.

Young and Whitney did their writing at night on the pianola, sitting at the machine in turns. The second act was finished four days later. This was also read to the board of managers. The critics were more delighted than ever. The third act was written in two nights. The authors stayed at their machine until 8 o'clock in the morning on the second night.

"We struck a hot line of dope and were afraid to let it get cold," explains Mr. Young.

So pleased with the play were the board of managers of the Press club and its members that but one copy of the play was made. The authors revised their work as they progressed. But four or five alterations in the lines have been made since the story's completion. The action of the play throughout is exactly as mapped out originally.

ARRANGING PRODUCTION OF "THE OLD BEDSTEAD."

Staging any production is a stupendous task, but doubly so with amateurs, not because they are slow in grasping the purport of their lines, but for several other reasons. These are:

First—They are inclined to make dates on rehearsal nights.

Second—They are inclined to confuse the back drop with the auditorium and address their lines to a back fence instead of toward the man who paid \$1.50 for a seat.

Third—They are timid, speaking their lines in a voice that dies before it reaches the footlights.

Fourth—There has never been an amateur who when corrected has not said: "Oh, don't worry about ME! I'll be all right that night!"

Bringing the presentation of the play up to the required standard was a matter of time, work and many rehearsals. Five scenes had to be constructed.

Scenery had to be painted or dug out of the cellar of the historic playhouse. The list of properties (paraphernalia used during the play) is the largest known to the Salt Lake theatre's stage hands with one exception. E. H. Sothern's "If I Were King" is the exception. It was obvious in the beginning that it would be difficult to obtain all the properties needed. Everything used had to be rustic and true to the rural atmosphere of the play. The management employed an experienced property man, F. L. Clawson, to work in connection with the Theatre's master of properties, Carl Reynolds. Both have worked like Trojans for two weeks gathering the necessary properties.

Famous Bedstead Obtained.

A master stroke was obtaining the loan of the Brigham Young bedstead, more highly prized by the family than any other heirloom. This relic of former days in Utah is now on exhibition in a downtown store window. Great care will be taken in removing this property from the window and carrying it to the theatre on the night of the production. The removal will be supervised by H. B. Clawson, custodian of the bedstead.

Difficulty was experienced in obtaining suitable furniture to set the stage for a euchre party in the third act. Every piece of furniture used in this scene has a history. The master of properties found much to do in securing material for the thrilling train robbery scene. An engine bell was borrowed from the Oregon Short Line Railroad company, a whistle from an implement company and the train itself from another source. Telegraph instruments and all connections had to be fitted up, and finding the Theatre electrician in the summer season is a story which would read like a 10-cent sleuth tale. A horse and wagon, pump, saw-buck, organ, fireplace and other properties were easily secured, but when the collectors tried to find a rag carpet they were up against it. Finally the greatest of care had to be promised the Jordan Stake Relief society, who loaned them the relic desired.

A force of five men is needed to produce stage effects during the presentation of "The Old Bedstead," exclusive of the electrician and regular stage hands.

BOTH AUTHORS ARE NATIVES OF UTAH

Race Whitney and Waldemar Young, authors of "The Old Bedstead," are Salt Lake newspaper men. Both were born in Salt Lake, and did their first newspaper work on The Salt Lake Herald. About five years ago Mr. Young went to San Francisco, where he later became sporting editor of the San Francisco Chronicle. Mr. Whitney went to Portland later, where for a year and a half he was dramatic critic and special writer on the Journal. He left there for San Francisco and was added to the Chronicle's staff.

For several months before the San Francisco earthquake and fire Mr. Young and Mr. Whitney were working on a musical comedy with R. S. Bassett, prominent in San Francisco's musical circles. After the production of the Press club show in the Salt Lake theatre, Sept. 6, the authors will go to New York to confer with a theatrical firm of that city with regard to the production of this musical comedy. They have received assurances of a hearing. Mr. Whitney is the son of O. F. Whitney, and Mr. Young the son of Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Young.

ROBBERY OF POOR DONE IN NAME OF CHRIST

EAST INDIAN SCHOLAR ARRAYS BRITISH GOVERNMENT—EXPRESSES CONTEMPT FOR AMERICAN HEIRESSSES WHO SELL THEMSELVES FOR TITLES.

VIEWS OF INDIAN SCHOLAR.

England's colonial policy in India and title-hunting American heiresses are rebuked in scathing language by Dr. N. Krishna, a high caste Brahmin, who is in the city for a short time to study political and social conditions in Utah. Dr. Krishna is a graduate of a number of the most prominent universities of Europe and the Orient, and has made a life study of political conditions in his native land.

The ruinous colonial policy of Great Britain in India is declared by Dr. Krishna, who holds the title of pundit in his native universities, to be responsible for the starvation of millions of Indian subjects. The enormous burden of taxation which India is forced to bear is claimed by him to have robbed the country of its wealth and to have impoverished its people.

The Indian people, he declares, are capable of self-government, and the administration of their own affairs. Prior to the advent of English rule, the affairs of India were so administered that the burden of taxation was light and the country was self-sustaining. Higher education is impossible in India, he declares, as it is impossible to establish schools for higher education.

The reign of Lord Curzon in India, he declares, was the most oppressive in the Indian colonial history, and the late Lady Curzon, who was formerly Miss Mary Leiter of Chicago, was the most cordially hated woman in India.

BY DR. N. KRISHNA.

Member International Peace Congress, East India National Social Reform Congress, and Former Member Indian National Congress.

There is no food supply in India, for the reason that before England conquered India, when Indian emperors ruled, there was a specific law providing that no man should pay taxes unless he was supplied with provisions for the succeeding twelve months. India does provide enough food for the millions of her people, but the food is overtaxed, and that is what makes the people die of starvation.

There are three reasons why famine exists in India:

The first is that the lowest taxes paid from the income from land is 45 per cent, and this runs up to 65 per cent. Under this condition even the richest farmer can scarcely produce a supply of food sufficient for ten months of the year. If he has nothing outside of his farming, he must suffer for two months. This is the case with the richest.

Take the case of the average farmer. He produces under present conditions enough to last for seven months. As he has no other means he must make the provision for seven months stretch over the twelve months of the year.

Thus it is that overtaxation is the first cause for the famines in India. The second reason is that there is no country under the sun today that pays as high salaries as the Indian government. To maintain the governor

general or viceroy, it costs \$1,500,000 per year. His private secretary is paid \$15,000 per year, besides having free of cost an official residence. Now there is one native in the civil service in India to ninety-nine Englishmen. The money in that proportion goes to England and impoverishes the country.

At the same time the governor general in India, the governors of provinces, the ministers for the states of India, the provincial ministers, judges of the seven supreme courts, the commander in chief, the provincial commanders, all of these men retire after five years of actual service in India with life pensions of \$10,000 per year.

Big Tax for Army.

Besides spending \$130,000,000 per year for the British army and navy in India she pays \$40,000,000 per year to maintain the British army and navy in England. This is the second reason for her poverty.

There is not a civilized country in the world that has ever paid such enormous pensions as \$10,000 per year for life for five years' service. England does this, and yet no Christian missionary has pointed this out. At the same time England's ruler is the defender of the Faith.

In England and America you call us Asiatic heathens. When you see En-



PUNDIT DR. N. KRISHNA.

glish hypocrisy in India you Americans tries—Turkey, Afghanistan and others call the British people your cousins. But even in the most barbarous coun-

tries—Turkey, Afghanistan and others call the British people your cousins. But even in the most barbarous coun-

Industries Are Killed.

The third reason for India's poverty: England has absolutely killed the native industries. Before the English people succeeded in robbing the Indians, we had our own industries, which produced enough for our own use, although our industries at that time, 100 years ago, were primitive and not developed.

Now for an instance of how England has killed our industries. The British government takes the money, several millions of dollars, every year out of the Indian treasury to support the so-called mail subsidy. This subsidy is called the "Indian mails to England" subsidy. On that pretense English Christians in India steal that money from India to England carries mail, and as the subsidy on that mail is so great that it reduces the cost of freight to practically nothing, English merchants can ship goods to India at the cost of the Indian taxpayer. At the same time anything made in India is taxed from 8 to 12 per cent. This is not an export tax, but a tax on the manufacturers for home consumption.

These two things entirely kill the Indian industries and the commerce of the country.

Clergy Live Like Princes.

A large sum is spent out of the Indian treasury for the maintenance of the Church of England in India. Bishops and the clergy are supported from the Indian treasury. They live like barbaric princes on the money that England steals from starving millions.

In addition to this there is not a single mining or metallurgical institute in India. There is not even a primary school for every twenty-five square miles of territory controlled by England.

These three things are responsible for the famines in India, with their unutterable horrors and the awful loss of life.

Now the reason that England does these things, it is plainly shown, is to rob the Hindu. For instance, the growing population of England is unwelcome in New Zealand, in Canada and the other colonies. The only way she

can support her millions who are really crowded out of the island, is to increase the British army in India. As a pretext for this, England tells the other countries that she fears Russia will invade India, thus excusing the tremendous increase in the British-army in India.

In the several years I spent in St. Petersburg, Russia, I never heard any mention of a proposed Russian invasion of India. I was close to many men of rank and often discussed it with them, but they poo-pooed the large idea of the thing.

Another most unjust thing is that the British consulates in China, Persia and Arabia are supported out of the Indian treasury, and yet England has almost 80 per cent of the interest in the commerce of China and Persia, while India has scarcely 20 per cent.

Scores Lord Curzon and Heiresses.

While I am speaking of misuse, let me speak of a man whose name has received a great deal of notice in America, because of his American wife. I mean Lord Curzon.

His Durbar—pahl! Do you wish to know what the people of India have termed his Durbar? The great Christian vaudeville. In other words, that Durbar was a scheme of Curzon for selfish and ambitious motives.

That Durbar was to proclaim Edward VII as emperor of India. It cost the people of India \$30,000,000, and in that same week 500,000 people in India, subjects of this class, died of starvation and the plague.

Yet the New York society people, the 400 fools, and Chicago's 400 fools will teach their daughters to sell their bodies and their souls to the English ping-pong kings as lords. These men are the most corrupt, impure and full of hypocrisy of any men in all the world.

At the same time these American queens, silly women, will go to the churches and pay large salaries to their bishops and clergy, and call themselves civilized Christians, and bring disgrace to their government, as America is a republic.

The last visit of the Prince of Wales to India is known in India as the royal highway robbery. In his honor in some of the large cities of India as much as \$40,000 was spent in night in the works. During his stay of five months

100,000 people died of starvation and 400,000 died of plague.

In other words, the promises made by Queen Victoria to the natives of India, given on five occasions, are nothing but a complex of Christian deceit and robbery.

At the same time no Hindu will ever say a single word against the royal family of England, if these promises are fulfilled. It is never in the mind of any intelligent Hindu to show hatred to England, but it is always in the mind of every Hindu to show his loyalty to and his love for his own country.

The English people are imperialists. Such as Lord Curzon, Lord Balfour and Dumny Pong (the name of the imperialist of empire at the cost of India. For instance, India supports English steamers that ply between the two countries, yet it costs three times as much for a native of India to send a letter to England than it does for an Englishman to send the same letter.

Praise for Marquis of Rippon.

The happiest period in the history of British India was from 1850 to 1885, when the Marquis of Rippon was the governor general of India. He planted the seeds of local government, press liberty and several other things that we considered essential to the happiness of civilized people as the Hindus are. His stay of four years in India is the pleasantest memory of British rule in India in the mind of every Hindu.

The worst governor general India ever had is known as the greatest of robbers, or the Idiot of the American fools, Lord Curzon. Lord Curzon doubled the military expenditure and other expenditures. Under his rule the taxes were nearly doubled. He robbed the natives of liberty of the press. He sent an expedition, against the will of the people, to Tibet, that cost India millions of dollars, with nothing in return either for India or for the crown.

Again, under him higher education is absolutely impossible. It is so hard that it is beyond the means of the natives to establish more high schools and colleges. In every word he was the model of European hypocrisy and highway robbery among those gentle

Continued on Page 8.